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Attorney Docket No.: 15508-004200US

APR 23 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

04/20/01

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

Brad J. Loos

Loos

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Albert G. Burdulis, Jr. et al.

Application No.: 09/707,746

Filed: November 6, 2000

For: Systems, Devices and Methods for

Suturing Patient Tissue

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

3731

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and

**§1.98** 

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and

Albert G. Burdulis, Jr. et al. Application No.: 09/707,746

Page +

no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that <u>no fee is required</u> for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Heslin Reg/ No. 29,541

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

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Tel: 650-326-2400 Fax: 650-326-2422

CJW:bil

PA 3135279 v1

Application No.: 09/707,746

FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS
FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several
sheets if necessary)

Attorney Docket No.: 15508-004200US

Applicant: Albert G. Burdulis, Jr. et al.

Filing Date: November 6, 2000 Group: Unassigned

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LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS			Applicant: Albert G. Burdulis, Jr. et al.			
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Attorney Docket No.: 15508-004200US Applicant: Albert G. Burdulis, Jr. et al.

Application No.: 09/707,746

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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.